**Testimony** 2-13-2021

## RE: HB-6423 & Proposed Bill 568, an act eliminating the nonmedical exemption to the immunization requirement

This is to inform you that I vehemently oppose HB-6423 and Proposed Bill 568 for the following reasons:

- Amendment 1 of the Constitution of the United States: Freedom of Religion, Speech, Press,
   Assembly and Petition: "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof..."
  - The Constitution of the US protects our right to Freedom of Religion. Federal law trumps state law. Thus, PASSING OF THIS BILL MAY BE UNCONSTITUTINAL.
  - One of the most sacred values that binds the people of this great country together is Freedom. The government should not impose its secular beliefs on its non-secular people; US citizens should be allowed to live, speak and act according to their religious beliefs, so long as doing so does not harm others. The passing of this bill would be, yet another governmental overreach, power grab, and INTRUSION ON OUR CIVIL LIBERTIES.
  - Religious freedom is under attack from every angle today, especially for Christians. A
    government that intrudes on our conscious thought and religious beliefs, will stop at nothing
    until they take it all. BEWARE OF MALICIOUS INTENTIONS THINLY VEILED AS VIRTUOUS "PUBLIC
    HEALTH" MATTERS.
  - The Supreme Court of the US has ruled in favor of limiting religious freedom (religious exemption to vaccinations) for compelling reasons such as an actual danger to public health. For example, in the early 1900s when smallpox (variola major) infection rates were through the roof and mortality rates were around 30%. When it comes to the COVID-19 pandemic, according to the CT COVID-19 Daily Data Report (portal.ct.gov; 2-13-2021):
    - People aged 0-19, there have been a total of 42,432 cases of COVID-19, of which 5 people died. This equates to a .012% mortality rate or, if reversed, a 99.988% survival rate.
    - And people aged 59 and below, there have been a total of 207,765 cases of COVID-19, of which 514 people died. This equates to a 0.25% mortality rate or, if reversed, a 99.75% survival rate.

If true (not inflated for malicious political intentions), the COVID-19 statistics above indicate that while still serious, this virus is much less of a public health threat than we have been told. Thus, this pandemic DOES NOT WARRANT A PERMANENT VIOLATION OF CIVIL LIBERTIES.

## Erosion of Trust in our Government Officials

- Trust in our state and federal government has dramatically eroded over the past few decades, for numerous, valid reasons. As a result of ineffective, even absurd policies, often championed by rampant corrupt "leaders", we've grown skeptical and suspicious of our government officials
   THE GOVERNMENT HAS SHOWN ITSELF TO BE UNTRUSTWORTHY.
- Mismanagement of this disease by political operatives, often referred to as "top health professionals", also make us skeptical about our government's interest in protecting its people. For example, there has been a concerted effort to prevent Americans from learning about multiple, inexpensive prophylactics and therapeutics that have been used successfully in other countries to potentially prevent and certainly treat COVID-19. Can you imagine how many lives would've been spared if our "top health professionals" and government officials would have worked together to ensure that prophylactics and therapeutics were at least considered before

- 339,592 people had to lose their lives from this awful disease? THE GOVERNMENT HAS SHOWN ITSELF TO BE UNTRUSTWORTHY.
- Let's be honest ... vaccines have risks and they are not the only answer. And let's not forget that the COVID-19 vaccine is still experimental. And let's be realistic ... the government is does not have absolute power to prevent death; death is inevitable. Likewise, the government is not responsible for keeping people alive; people have the right and responsibility to decide what is right and wrong for themselves. Thus, THE GOVERNMENT CANNOT AND SHOULD NOT DICTATE WHAT A PERSON MUST PUT INTO HIS/HER BODY.

Ever so subtly our elected officials, who take an oath to protect the constitution and the people they serve, increasingly take control over the lives of their constituents. Consequently, citizens are largely oblivious that they're relinquishing control and being stripped of their civil liberties. Don't let it happen again. **PROTECT RELIGIOUS FREEDOM. PLEASE VOTE NO!** 

Thank you for your consideration.

Carol Savelle